

### En Español

Este reporte contiene información importante acerca del sistema de agua de la Escuela Great Western y la seguridad de su agua potable. Usted podría solicitar una explicación en español llamando al 305-7061. Horas de Oficina son de las 7:30 a.m. a las 4:00 p.m., lunes a viernes, o deje un mensaje con su domicilio y una copia del reporte se le mandara por correo.

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### **Our Commitment Continues**

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. This report covers all testing completed from January 2012 through December 2012. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water.

Please call Joseph Gonzalez at (559)305-7061 or e-mail [gonzalez-j@kcusd.com](mailto:gonzalez-j@kcusd.com)

Safe, reliable drinking water is a basic life necessity. Kings Canyon Unified School District is proud to deliver water to more than 2,400 people every day. We think it is important for our students, staff and parents to understand where their water comes from, how safe it is, and what actions we take to ensure its continuing safety. In accordance with Federal and State of California guidelines, this report provides the information you need to know about the water you drink.

### **Questions & Answers**

#### **Where does my water come from?**

Alta school water is a groundwater supply consisting of one gravel-packed well. The well is located about 271 feet below the surface

#### **Is bottled water safer than tap water?**

Both tap water and bottled water must meet strict water quality standards, but tap water is subject to more frequent testing and higher reporting standards. Bottled water is generally not better quality than what comes out of the tap.

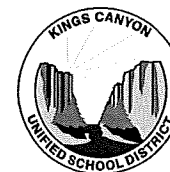
#### **Should I buy a home filtration unit?**

According to the USEPA, home treatment units are rarely necessary for health reasons, they are most often used to improve the aesthetic qualities of water. If you choose to install a home treatment unit, be sure to follow the manufacturer's maintenance instructions. Improperly maintained units can actually cause water quality problems.

Carbon filters that come with your unit can grow bacteria if they are not changed as recommended.

Kings Canyon Unified School District  
Maintenance Department

1500 I St.  
Reedley, CA 93654



## **Great Western Elementary**

5051 North Frankwood  
Ave., Reedley CA 93654

## **2012 Water Quality Report**



The Kings river at Grizzly falls  
Kings Canyon National Park, May-2008

\* Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation provided under typical sources and summary.

## Primary Drinking Water Standards

(Monitoring is regulated to protect public health.)

Substance	(units)	Year Tested	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Detected Average	Violation	Typical sources
<b>INORGANIC CHEMICALS</b>							
Nitrate	(ppm)	2011	45	45	11	NO	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	(ppm)	2009	0.010	0.004	0.003	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	(ppm)	2009	1	2	0.025	NO	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	(ppm)	2009	2.0	1	0.10	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

## SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS, Regulated contaminants

Iron	(ppb)	2008	300	300	180	NO	Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes.
Turbidity	Units	2008	5	5	1.5	NO	Soil runoff
Specific Conductance	umho/cm	2008	1600	1600	250	NO	Substances that form ions when in water; sea water influence
Total Dissolved Solids {TDS}	(ppm)	2008	1000	1000	160	NO	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
Chloride	(ppm)	2008	500	500	7.8	NO	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; sea water influence
Sulfate	(ppm)	2008	500	500	6.5	NO	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.

## RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

Combined Radium	(pCi/L)	2008	5	5	2	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
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## SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMICALS ( SOC's and VOC's )

27 VOC's Tested	—	2007	—	—	—	NO	
34 other SOC's tested	—	2007	—	—	—	NO	
EDB	(ppt)	2009	50	10	ND	NO	
DBCP	(ppt)	2009	200	1.7	ND	NO	

## Sampling results for Sodium and Hardness

Sodium	(ppm)	2008	N/A	N/A	27	NO	Generally found in ground or surface water.
Hardness	(ppm)	2008	N/A	N/A	62	NO	Generally found in ground or surface water.

## SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER (Tests were collected from 5 rooms on site.)

Detected	Year Tested	No. of samples tested	90th percentile level detected	No. of sites exceeding MCL	MCL (AL)	Violation	Typical sources
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Lead (ppm)	2010	5	ND	0	0.015	NO	<p>Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level may experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children may show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years may develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.</p> <p>Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time may experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years may suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor</p>
Copper (ppm)	2010	5	0.063	0	1.3	NO	

### Sample Results Showing the Detection of Coliform or Other Bacteria During 2012

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of detections	No. of Months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Typical sources	Health Effects
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	1	0	NO	Naturally present in the environment	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.
Fecal coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	0	0	1	0	NO	Human and animal fecal waste	Fecal coliforms and <i>E. coli</i> are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

## Summary Information for Contaminants Exceeding an MCL, MRDL, or AL, or a Violation of Any Treatment Technique or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement.

The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.



**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

**Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Non Detectable (ND):** The test results returned from the laboratories with no detections of any kind.

**Variances and Exemptions:** Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

**ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

**Water Hardness:** Water is considered soft if total hardness is less than 75ppm, moderately hard at 75 to 150 ppm, hard at 150 to 300 ppm. Water hardness varies with its source.

**Additional General Information on Drinking Water:** Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## Potential sources of contamination

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, and in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

### Substances that may be present in source water include :

**Microbiological contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from septic systems, agricultural live-stock operations, wildlife, and wastewater treatment plants.

**Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharge, oil and gas productions, mining or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemical, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agriculture application, and septic systems.

**Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to insure that tap water is safe to drink, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Department of Health Services prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Regulations also establish the same public health protection limits for contaminants in bottled water.



## Educational information

*Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).*

*Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).*

*If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Kings Canyon Unified School District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>*

## Water Conservation tips

Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only to save the supply of our source water, but can also save the school money in replacement parts (such as pumps and motors) and electrical costs.

### Tips to conserve and protect our water:

- Do not dump chemicals out onto the ground or storm drains.
- Fill a pitcher and place it in the refrigerator to cool instead of running the water for a while waiting for it to cool.
- Report leaks to have them repaired as soon as possible.

### Conservation measures you can use at home reducing your water bill:

- Do not dump used oil, antifreeze, and fluids in the trash or gutters where they can work their way back into the ground. Dispose of them properly by taking them to your local auto motive center.
- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, ect.
- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving devices.
- Wash only full loads of laundry or dishes.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean our driveway and sidewalks you could save up to 150 gallons of water.
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Take shorter showers.
- Use water from a bucket to wash your car, and save the hose for rinsing.
- Use water-saving nozzles.

Information on other ways that you can help conserve water can be found at:  
[www.epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/index.html).

